CLAIMS

1. Use of molsidomine or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts, in the form of a sustained-release solid oral composition effective over 24 hours, for the manufacture of a drug for preventing or attenuating the development of atherosclerosis.

2. Use according to claim 1 of a sustained-release solid oral composition effective over 24 hours, characterized in that said composition has an in vitro dissolution rate, measured spectrophotometrically at 286 or 311 nm by the method described in the European Pharmacopoeia, 3rd edition (or USP XXIV), at 50 rpm, in 500 ml of a 0.1 N HCl medium, at 37°C, of:

- 15 to 25% of molsidomine released after 1 hour
- 20 to 35% of molsidomine released after 2 hours
- 50 to 65% of molsidomine released after 6 hours
- 75 to 95% of molsidomine released after 12 hours
- >85% of molsidomine released after 18 hours
- >90% of molsidomine released after 24 hours,

the plasma peak of molsidomine obtained in vivo occurring 2.5 to 5 hours, preferably 3 to 4 hours, following the administration of said form, and having a value of between 25 and 40 ng/ml of plasma.

3. Use according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the above-mentioned solid oral composition contains between 14 and 24 mg, preferably 16 mg, of molsidomine per dosage unit intended for daily administration.

4. Use according to one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that said above-mentioned solid oral composition is administered to patients suffering from angina pectoris.